Sega Megadrive Cover Comparisons

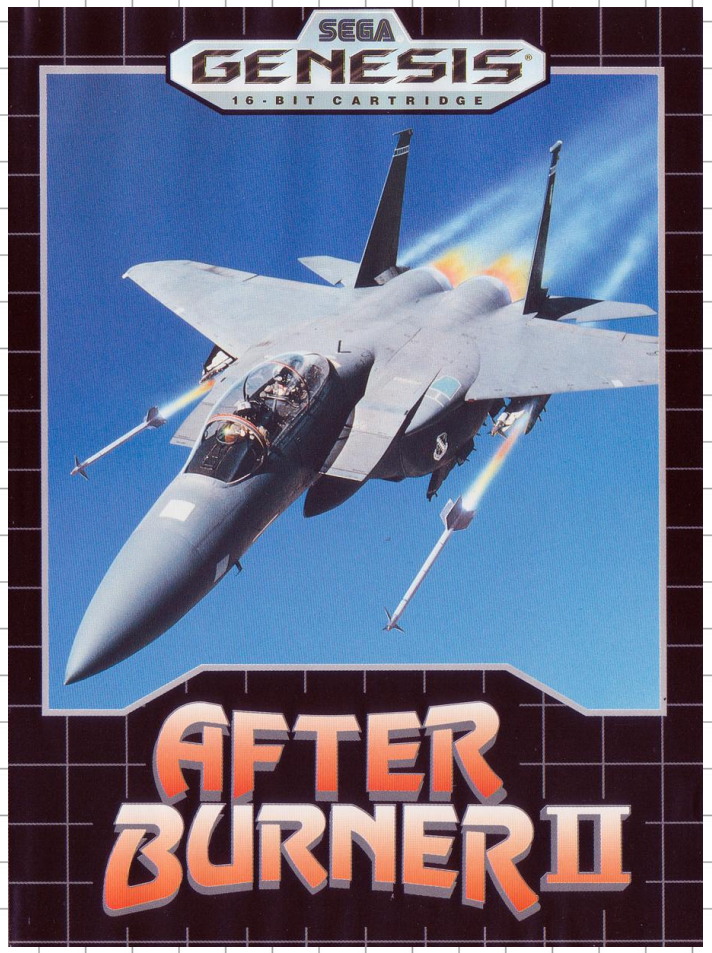
HELLFIRE

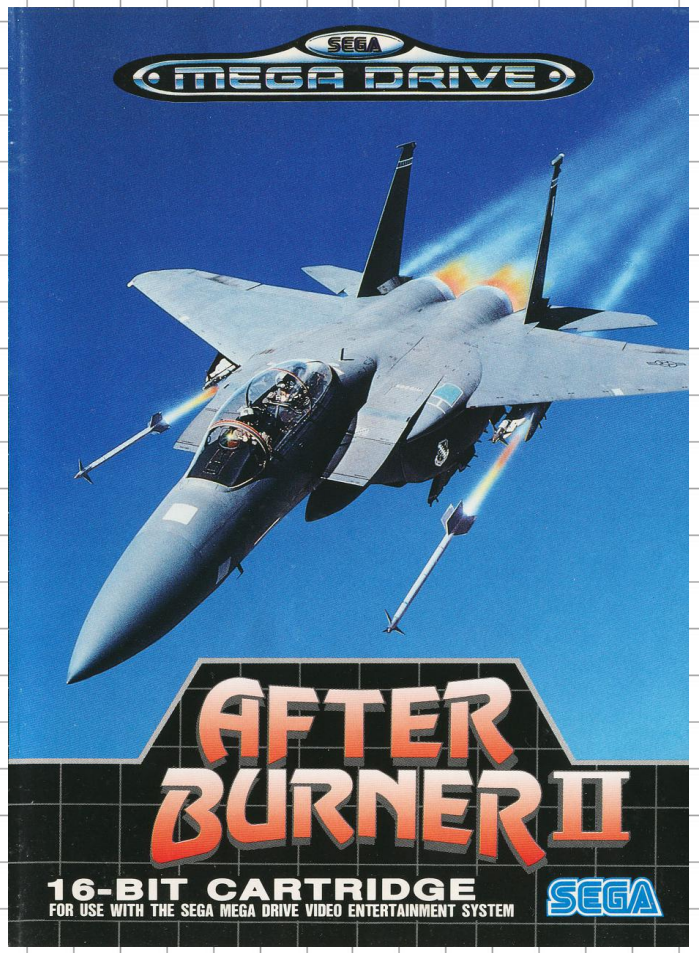
American Version

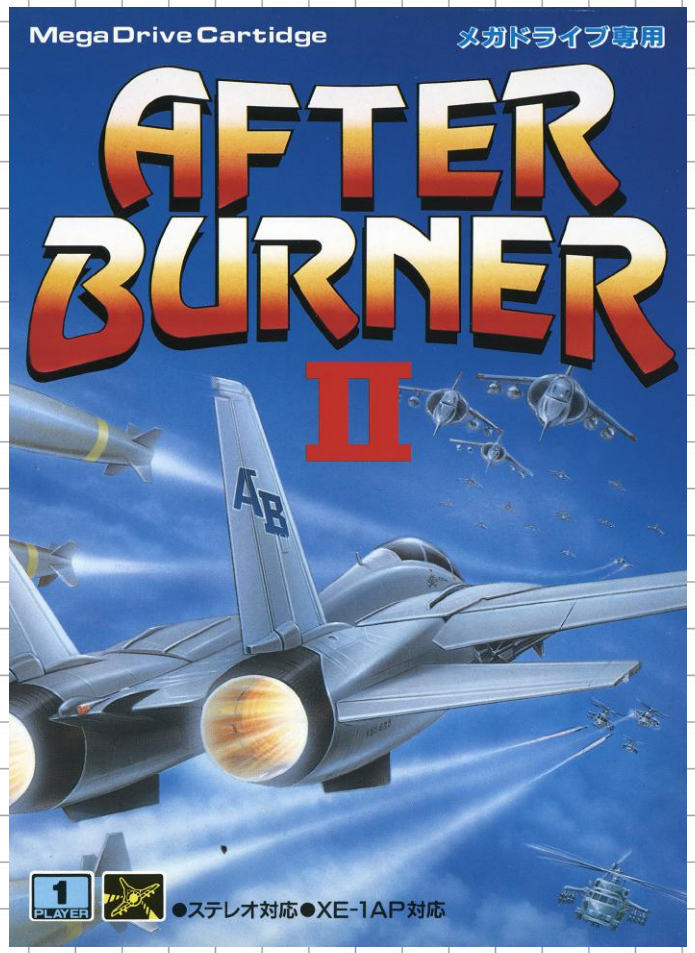
European Version

Japanese Version

All three regions use the same image albeit in different ways. The US cover although slightly washed out keeps it tidyand framed though cropped, the Japanese cover also crops the image having an rectangular look, overall the European cover comes across the best with having a near full cover image with only the usual logo's placed over.







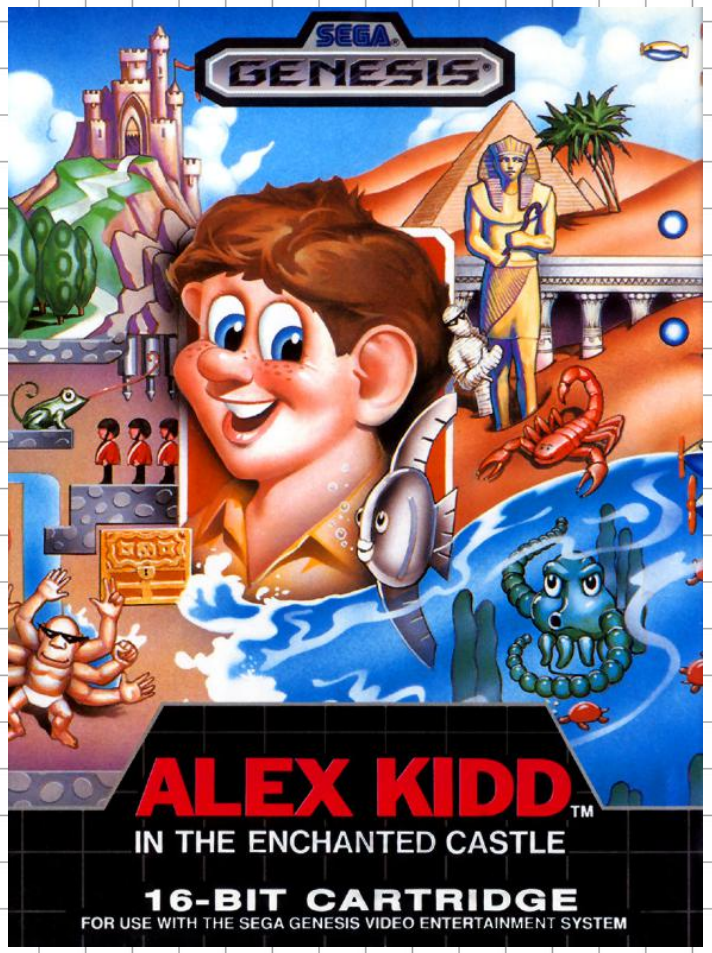
American Version

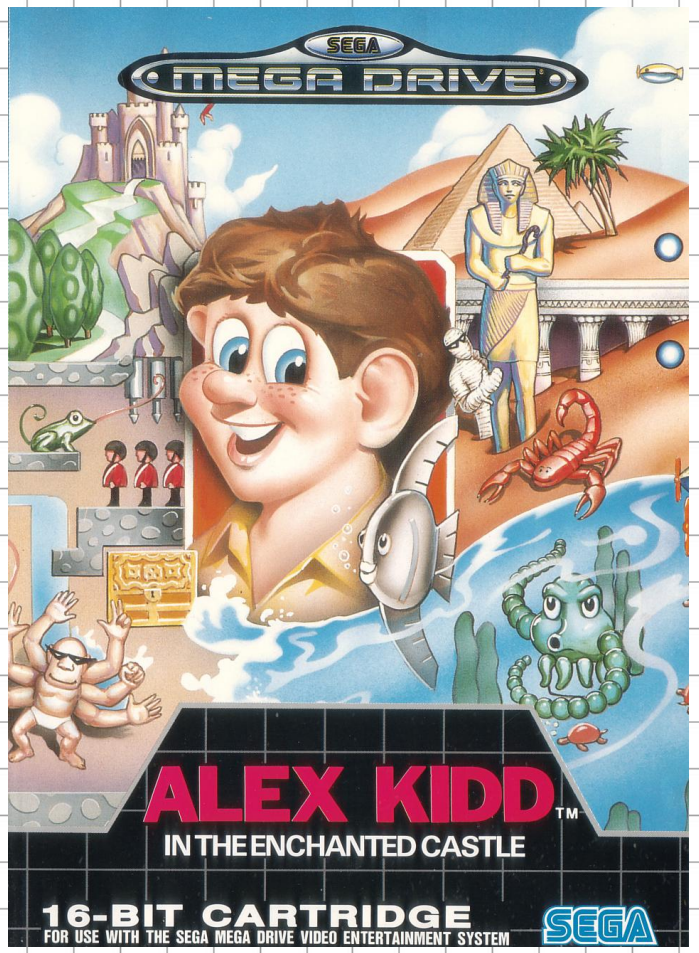
European Version

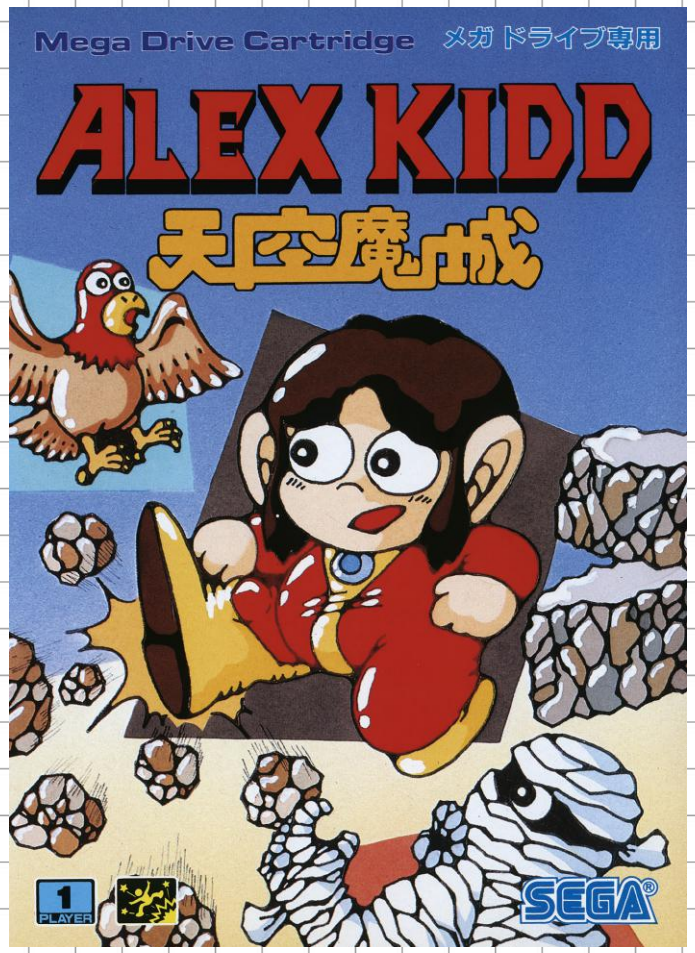
Japanese Version

The Genesis and European Megadrive covers have a F-15 US Jet Fighter letting off a couple of missiles, whilst the Japanese cover has a more appealing image with the viewpoint of the Afterburners and rear of the plane that's visable in the actual game, along with dodging oncoming missiles and enemies, bringing a more appealing cover overall.

ALEX KIDD™







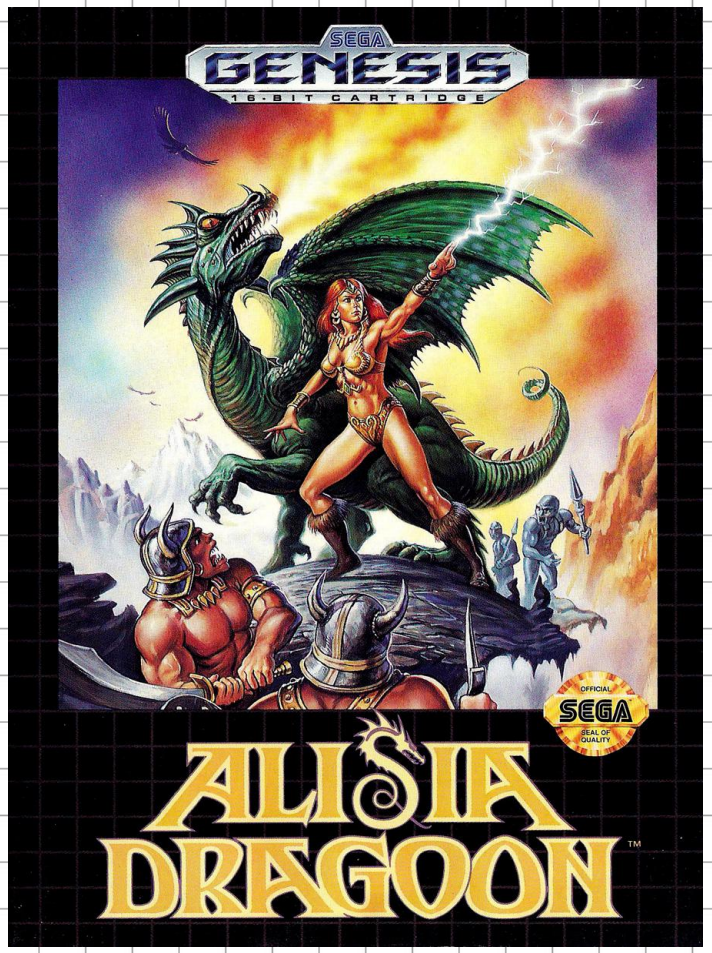
American Version

European Version

Japanese Version

The Genesis and European Megadrive covers have a more westernised image of a character with in-game areas placed around his head, the Japanese cover aims for a younger market with basic bright and bold cartoon characters used, truth be told neither images are very memorable and show off that early Megadrive box art was underused to sell the game enough.

ALISIA DRAGOON™



SEGA GENESIS 16-BIT CARTRIDGE

American Version

SEGA MEGA DRIVE

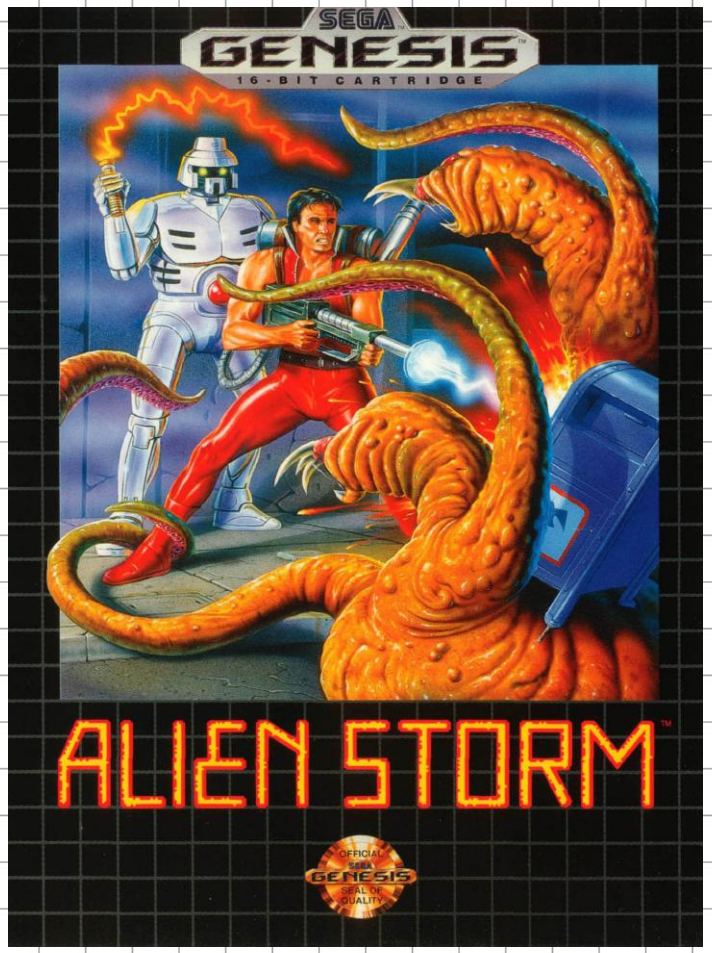
European Version

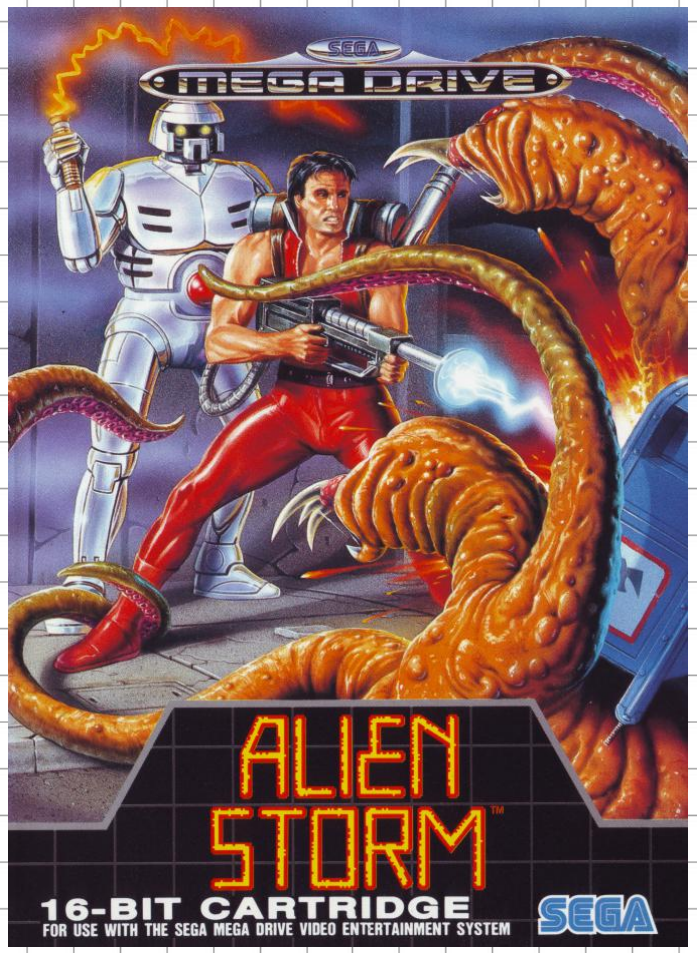
MEGA DRIVE

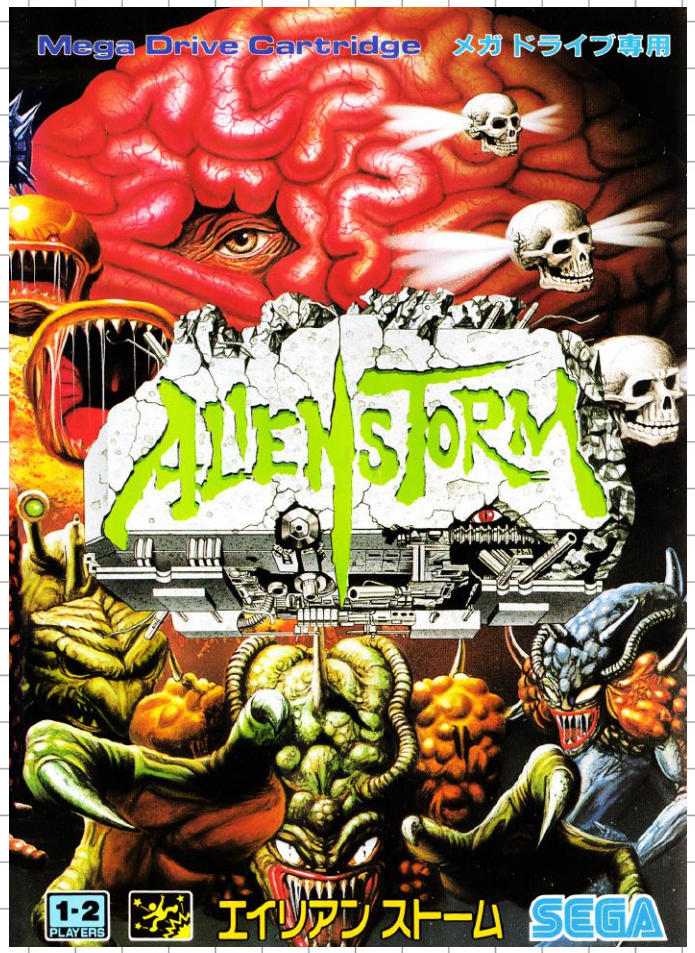
Japanese Version

The Genesis and European Megadrive covers have wonderful eye catching fantasy artwork of the lead character with her Dragon fighting the enemy. The Japanese cover goes with anime style drawings, that whilst are fine and have muted pastel colours, for once the Western covers seem to have used a better image overall.

ALIEN STORM







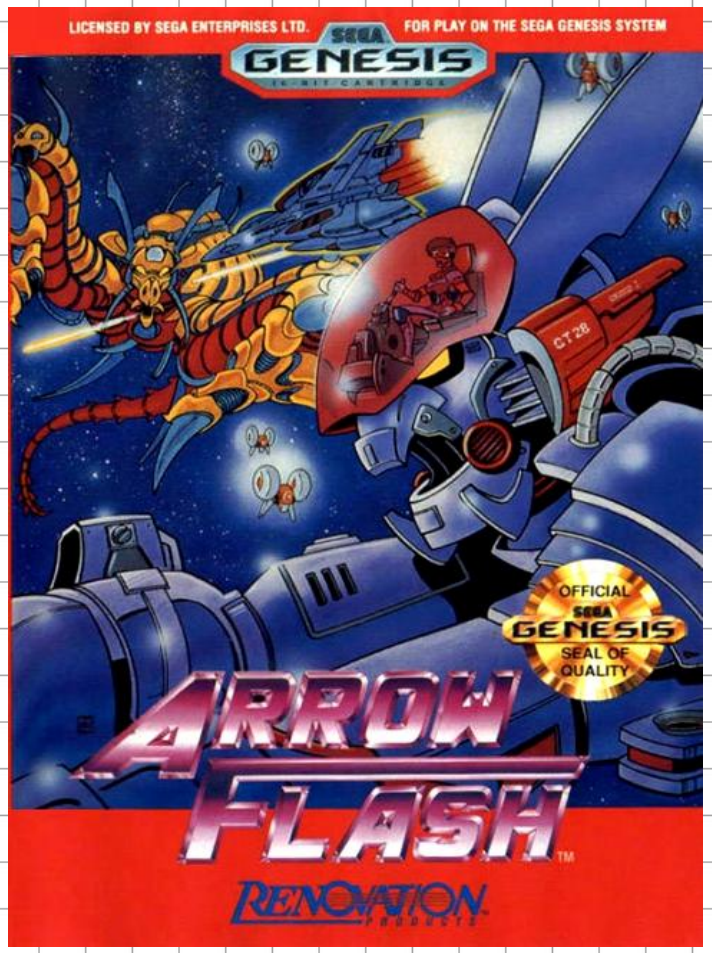
American Version

European Version

Japanese Version

The Genesis and European Megadrive covers target the main characters with a decent detailed hand drawn image that shows actually what the game probably will entail. The Japanese cover contains more great artwork spread across the front and back covers, with the front containing the aliens in a eye-catching colourful image.

ARROW FLASH



SEGA GENESIS 16-BIT CARTRIDGE

American Version

SEGA MEGA DRIVE

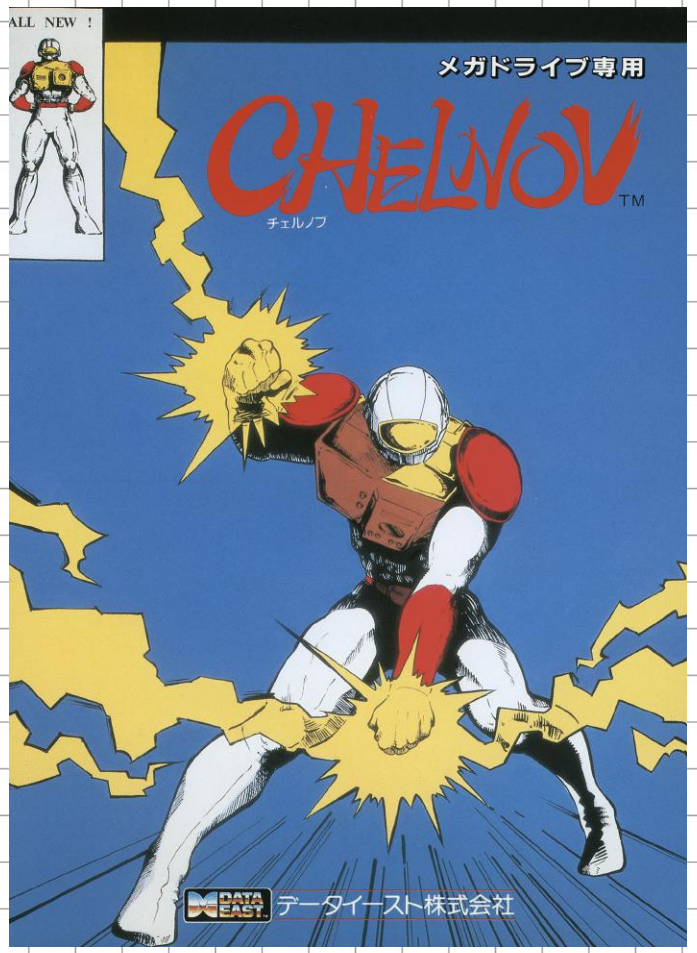
European Version

MEGA DRIVE

Japanese Version

The Genesis cover reminisce's of the 80's cartoons, although it uses too much blue, and the bold red surround doesn't help! The European cover is eye-catching but looks corny at the same time, she's supposed to be flying, not posing in front! The Japanese cover again goes with anime drawings, but overall it pulls it off with a feeling of the lead character's gonna kick some butt.

ATOMIC RUNNER CHELNOV



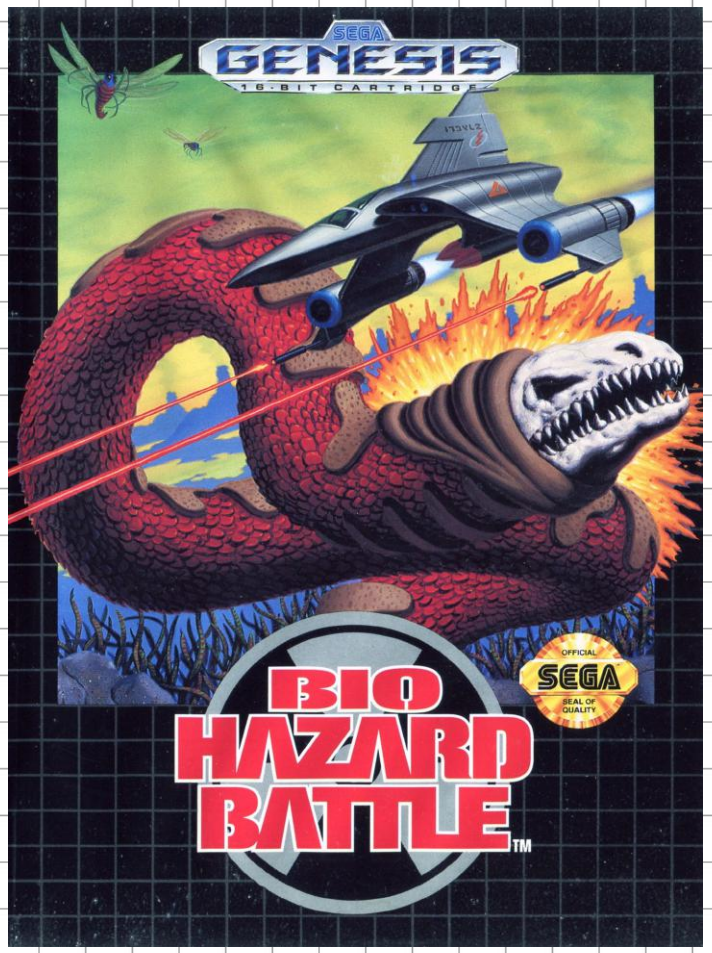
SEGA GENESIS 16-BIT CARTRIDGE
American Version

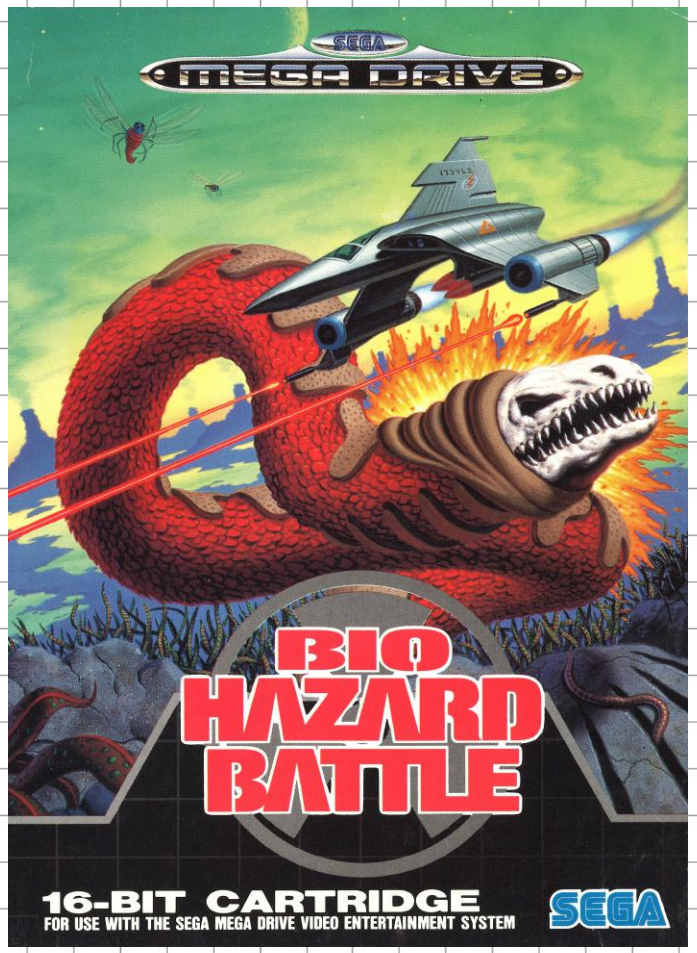
SEGA MEGA DRIVE
European Version

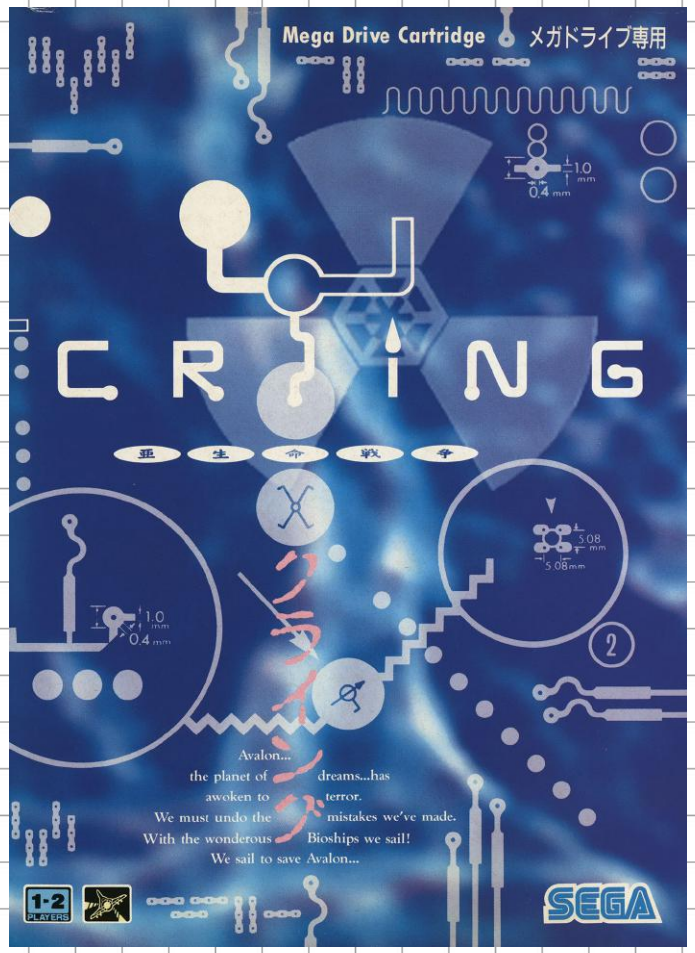
MEGA DRIVE
Japanese Version

The Genesis cover features random shooting from lone metal warrior, very unispired. The European cover has at least more detail than the Genesis cover, looks like he's draining the grid pretty quick too! The best of a very average bunch! The Japanese cover has some of the worst cover art I've ever seen! Minimal detail on his torso, nothing to want you to buy this game!

BIO-HAZARD Battle™







SEGA GENESIS 16-BIT CARTRIDGE

American Version

SEGA MEGA DRIVE

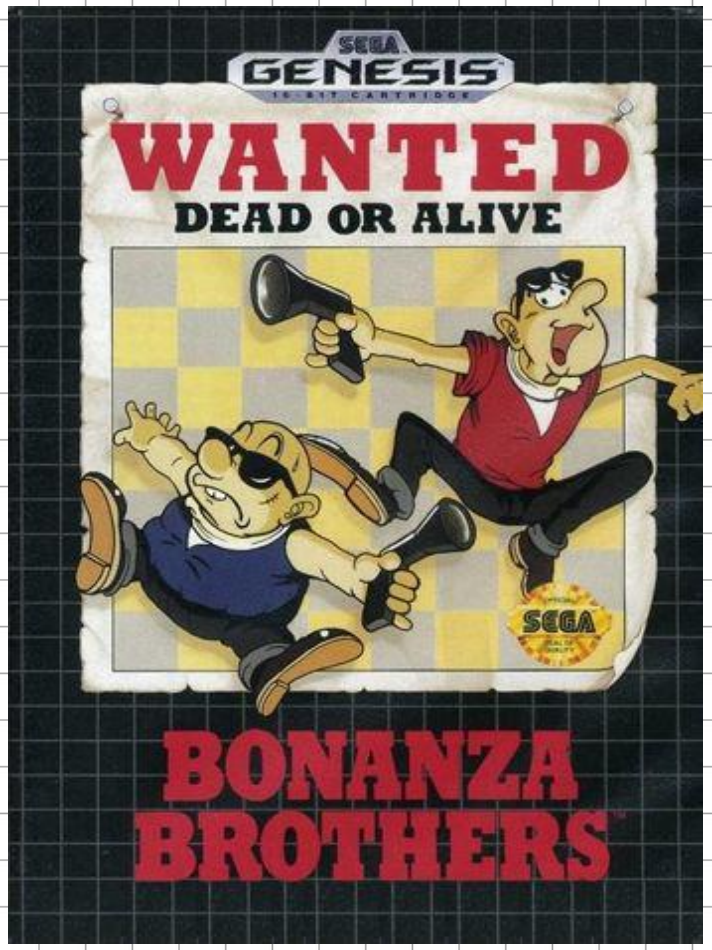
European Version

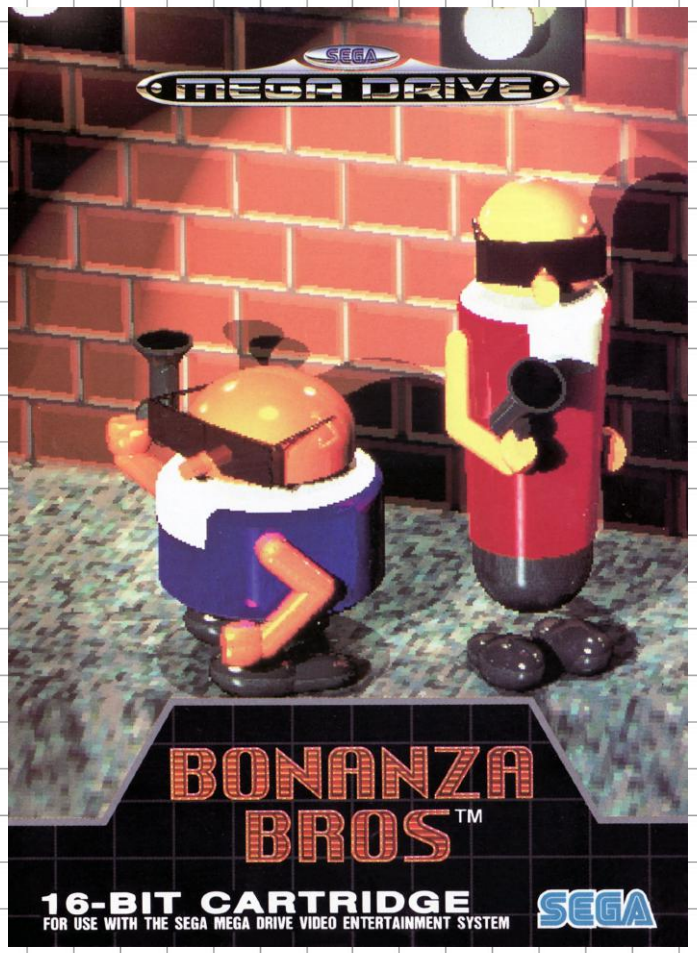
MEGA DRIVE

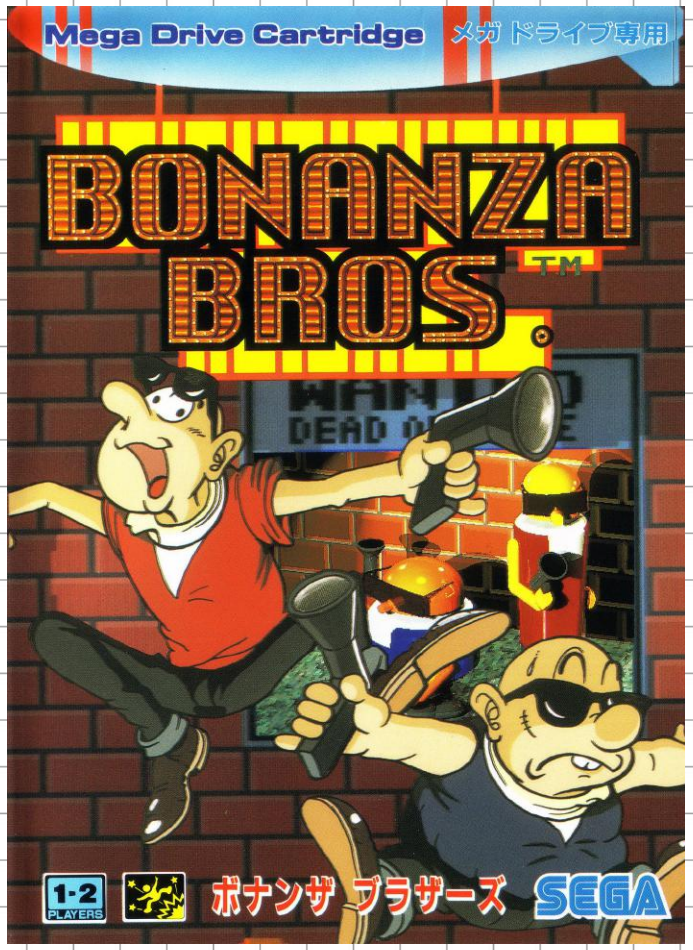
Japanese Version

The Genesis and European Megadrive covers feature nicely drawn art of your ship blasting some alien creature, a colourful and striking image. The Japanese game was known as 'Crying' and the boxart is forgettable with a nuclear type icon and a few words of 'wisdom' not a cover that shouts out buy me!

BONANZA BROS.







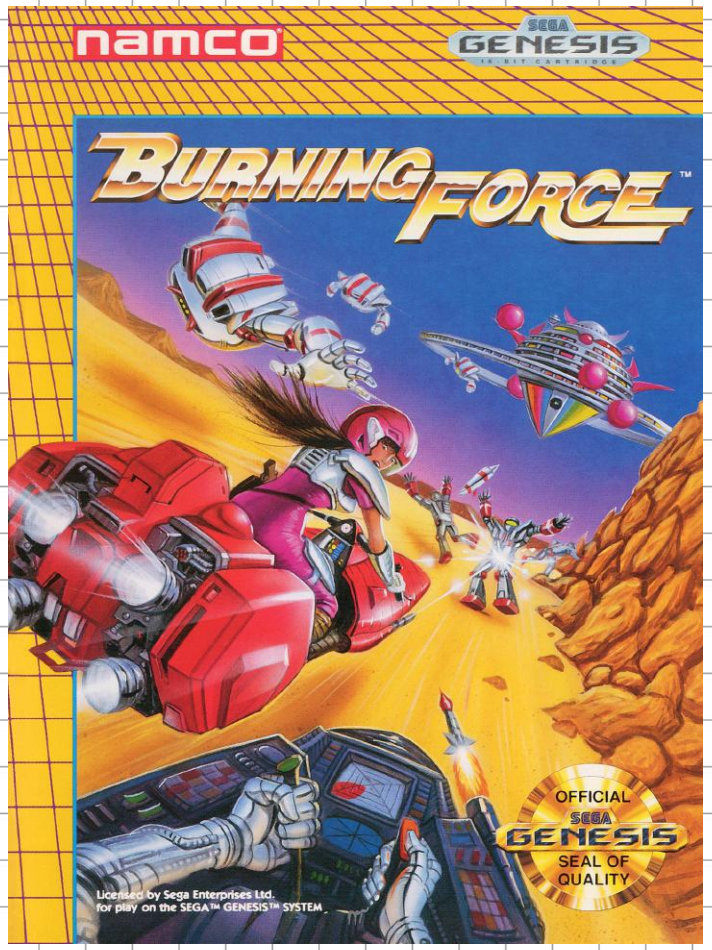
American Version

European Version

Japanese Version

The Genesis cover portrays the characters on a ‘wanted’ poster, though they look like something out of a 60s American sitcom then the robots they should be! The European cover features 3D rendering of our heroes, this at least has the characters shown as they should be! The Japanese cover weirdly is a combination of both.

BURNING FORCE


namco
SEGA GENESIS
BURNING FORCE
OFFICIAL SEGA GENESIS SEAL OF QUALITY
Licensed by Sega Enterprises Ltd. for play on the SEGA™ GENESIS™ SYSTEM

SEGA GENESIS 16-BIT CARTRIDGE

American Version

SEGA MEGA DRIVE

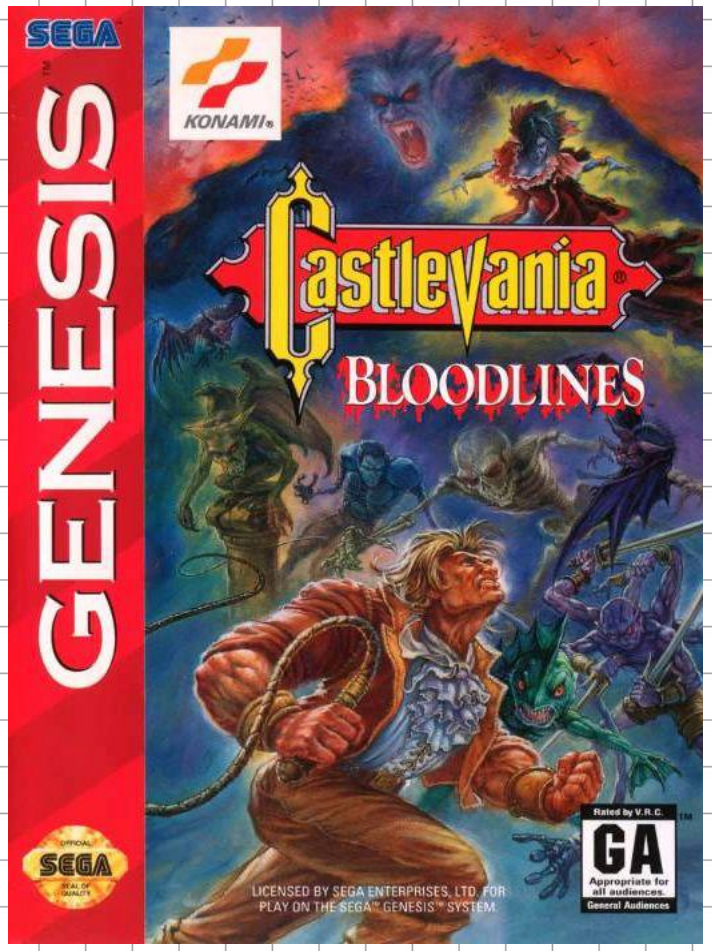
European Version

MEGA DRIVE

Japanese Version

The Genesis cover portrays the game well from a first person view from the enemies ship behind. The European cover goes with Jap image this time, a great anime drawing from behind the craft looking. The Japanese cover shows more action than the Euro one, and it's better postioned on the cover overall.

Castlevania Bloodlines



SEGA GENESIS 16-BIT CARTRIDGE

American Version

SEGA MEGA DRIVE

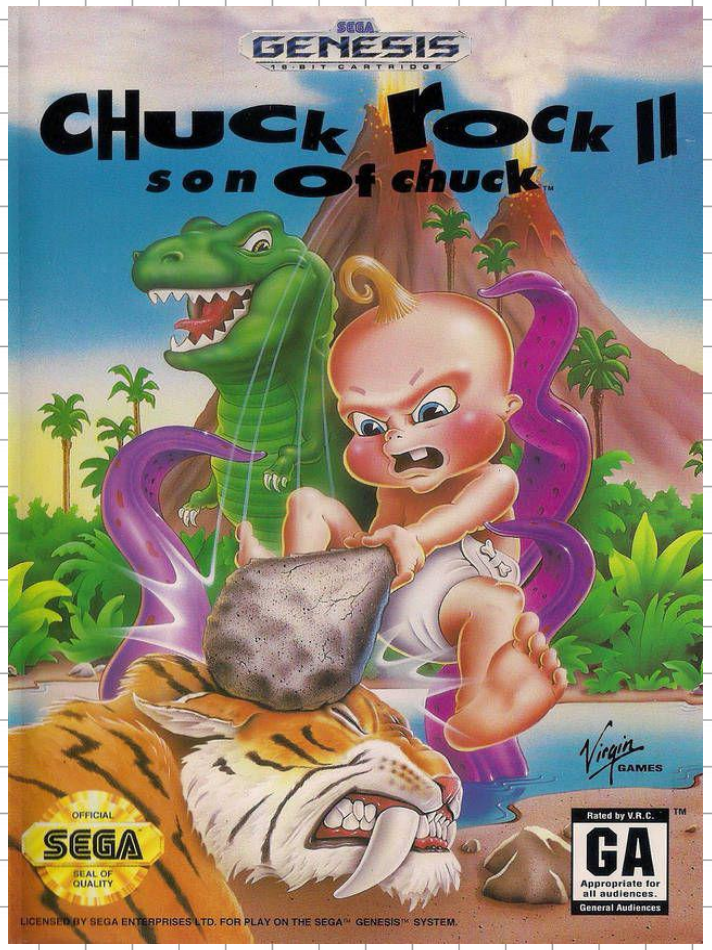
European Version

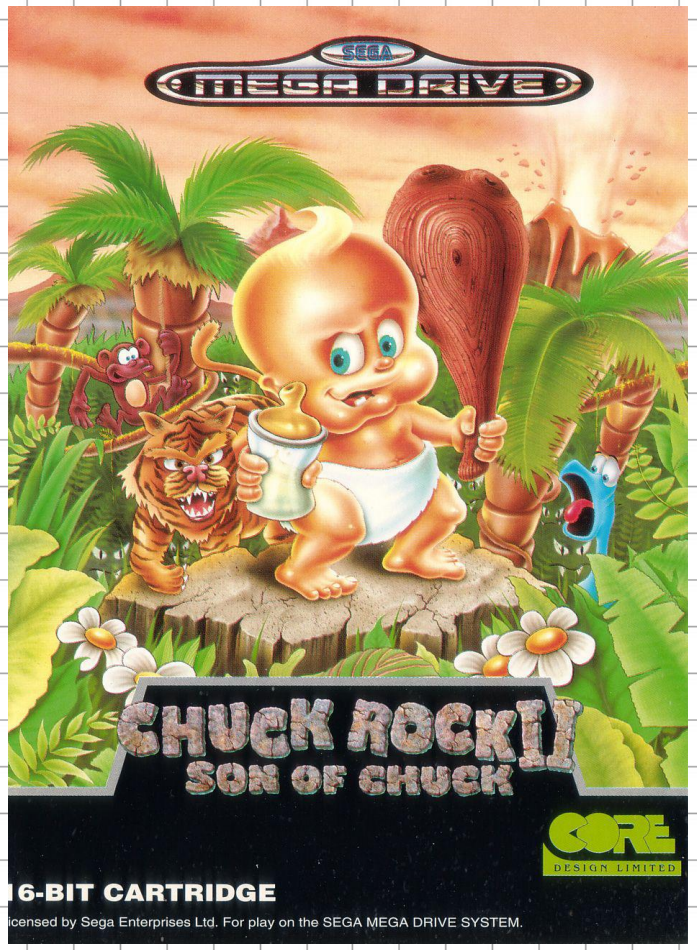
MEGA DRIVE

Japanese Version

The Genesis cover has been redrawn and personally its a little underwhelming with the main character looking like he has constipation rather than heading into battle! The European cover taken from the Jap version is much the same but the game font looks a bit naff. The Japanese version (known as Vampire Killer) had some nice drawings of the characters in the game with a moody background setting the mood.

Chuck Rock II
son of chuck





American Version

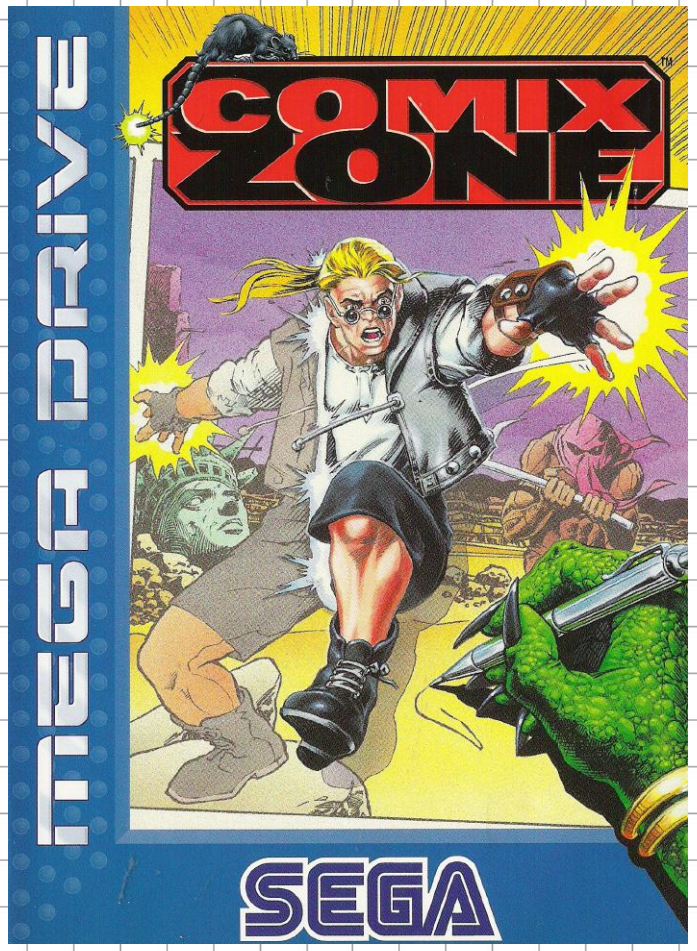
European Version

Japanese Version

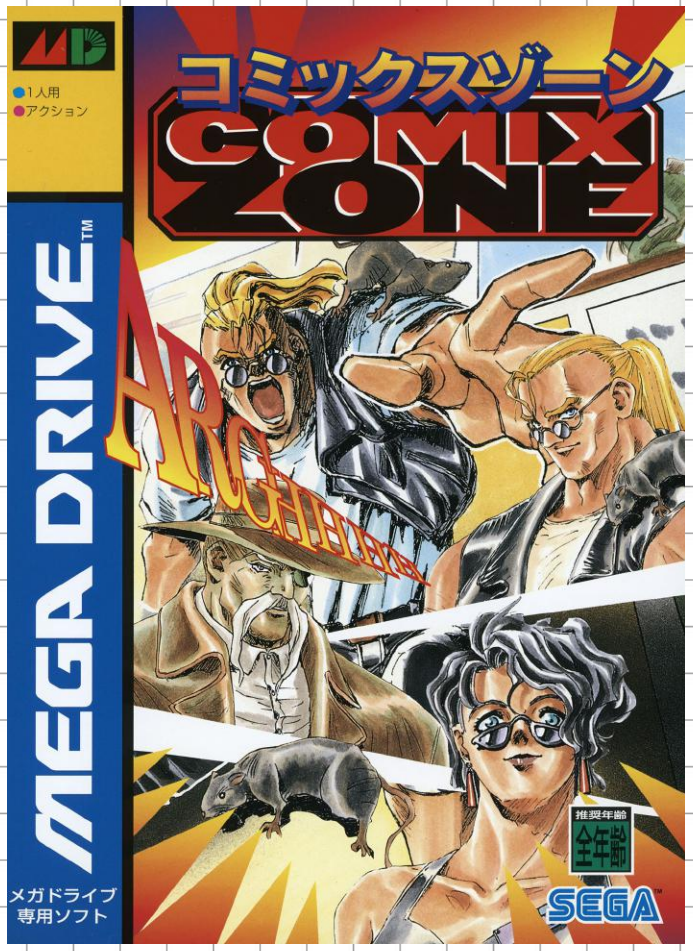
The Genesis cover has less impact than the other two, the title font is pretty poor and not eye-catching, whilst the poor Tiger is getting a right battering! The European cover visually is more pleasing with a more limited colour palette put to better use. The Japanese cover goes for a more simplistic image, with bold edges that stand out and comes across well and as far as babies on covers go, this one is the best.

COMIX ZONE

American Version



European Version



Japanese Version

The Genesis and European covers are near identical with a nice drawing within a drawing of the main character with hand on paper depicting the ability to alter a ‘comic’ in a game. The Japanese whilst using a comic strip as a main image, visually it doesn’t come across as well.

CONTRA HARD CORPS

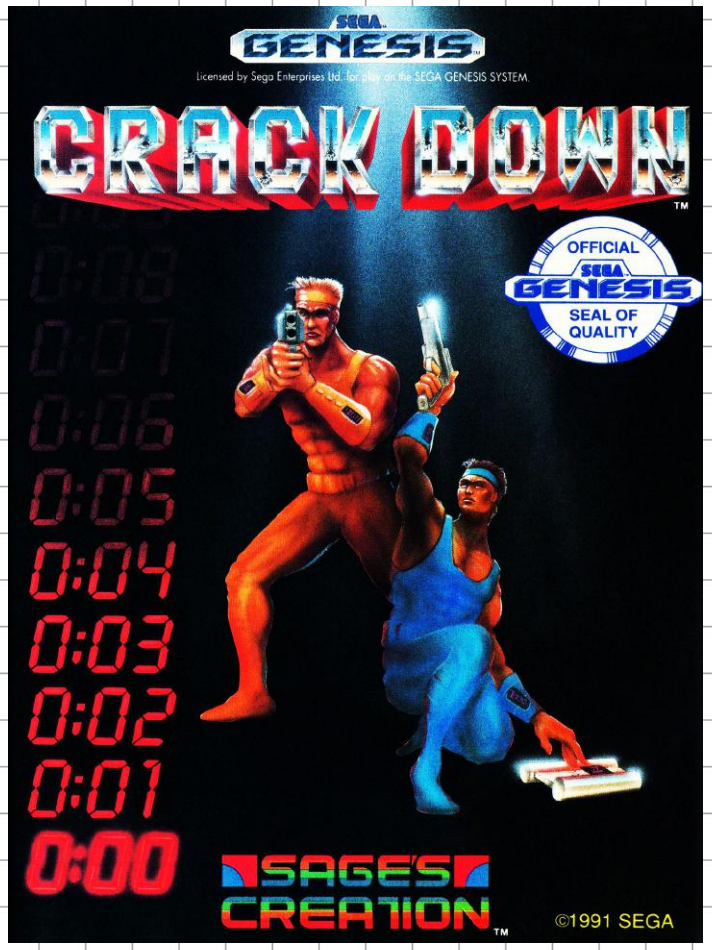
American Version

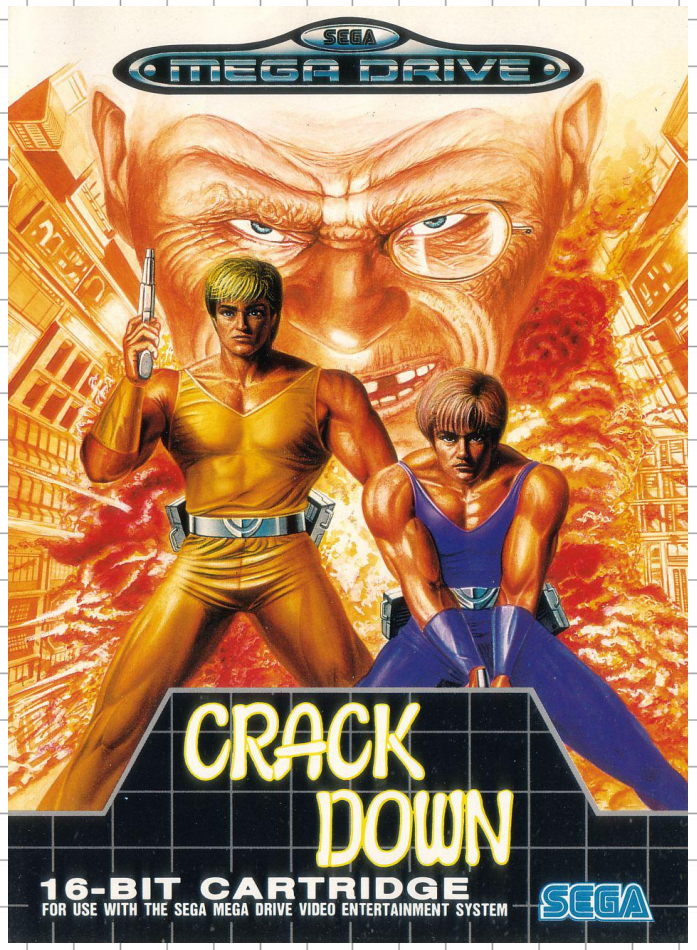
European Version

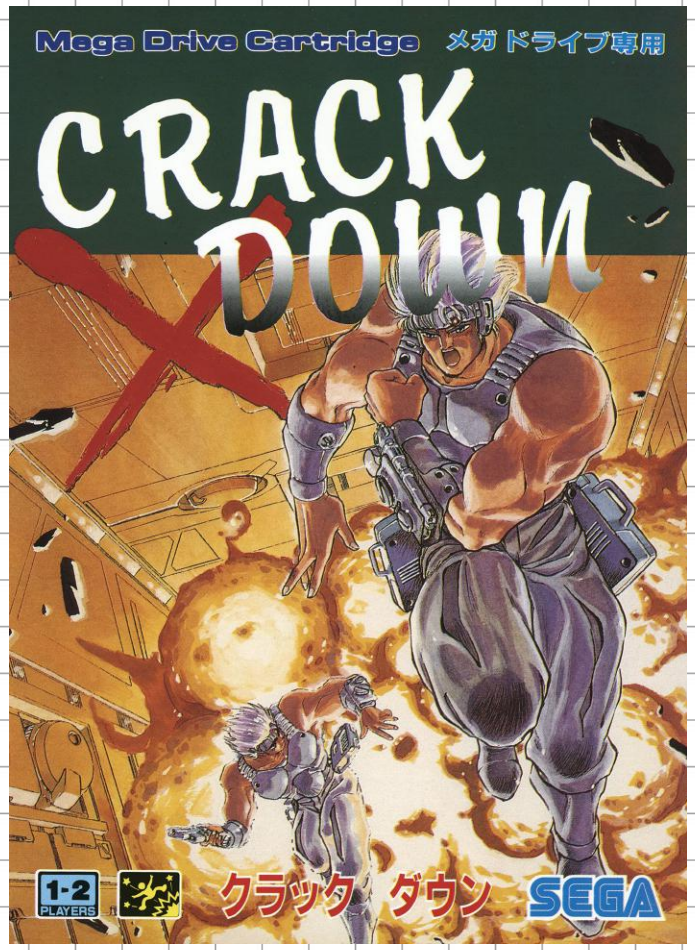
Japanese Version

The Genesis cover is nothing amazing, the art is very average with the main focus being the gun. The European cover is a travesty just like the name change to 'Probotector'! you wouldnt think it was the same game. The Japanese cover is very basic in the background, the artwork is ok but it doesn't grab you visually.

CRACK DOWN







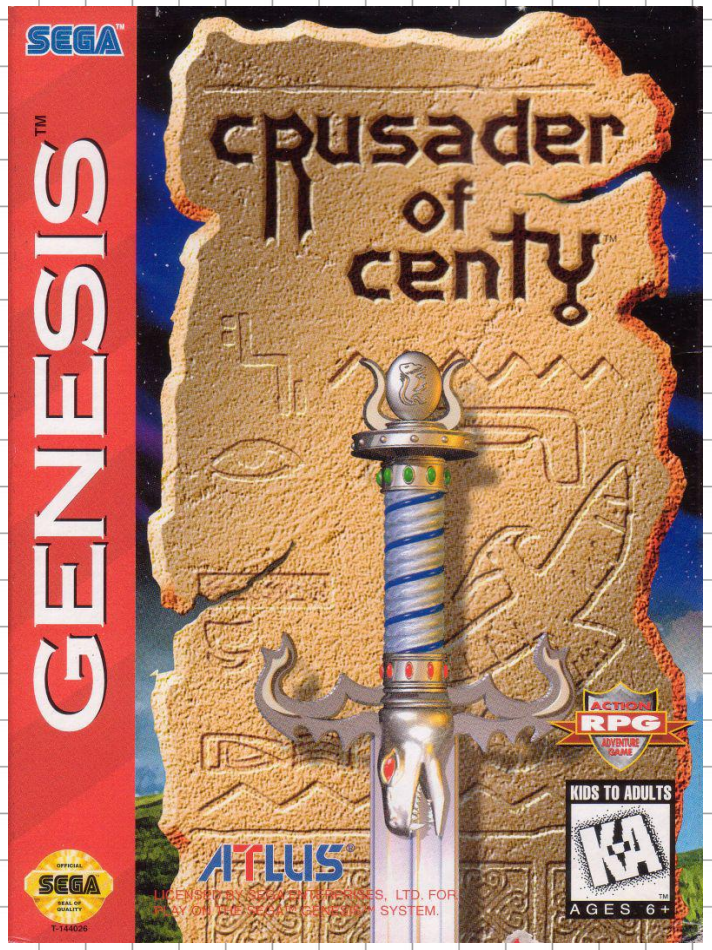
SEGA GENESIS 16-BIT CARTRIDGE
American Version

SEGA MEGA DRIVE
European Version

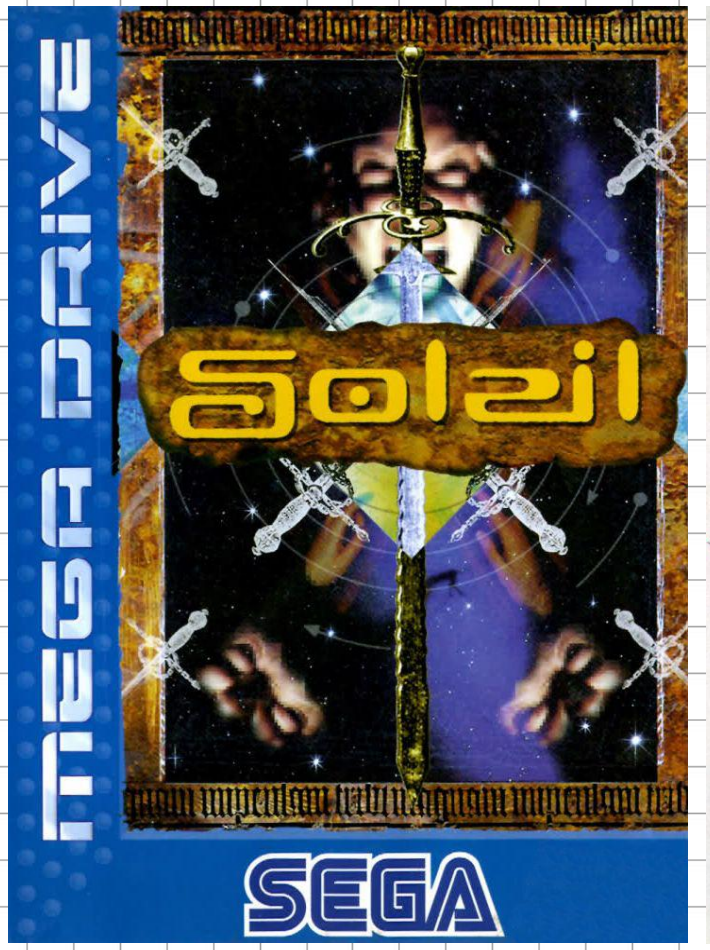
MEGA DRIVE
Japanese Version

The Genesis version has a 80s vibe to it, very simplistic drawings, not very inspiring! The European cover has alot better design, the background looks good with the evil 'baddie', but the main characters have a strange look, maybe its the haircuts!? The Japanese cover is very explosive, a great action shot as they run away from the blast.

Crusader of Centy



American Version

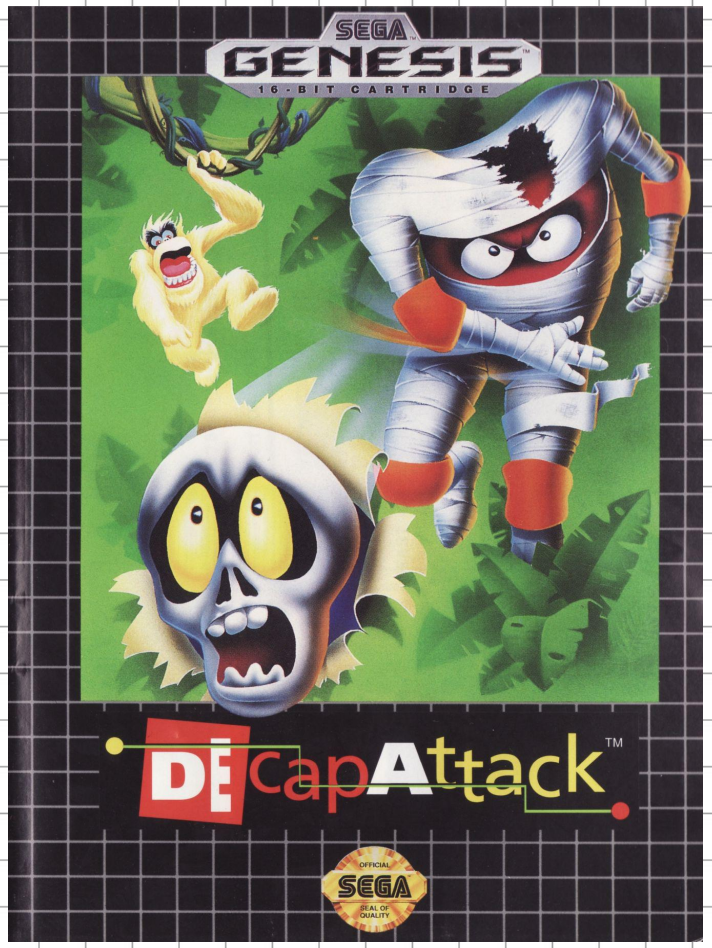


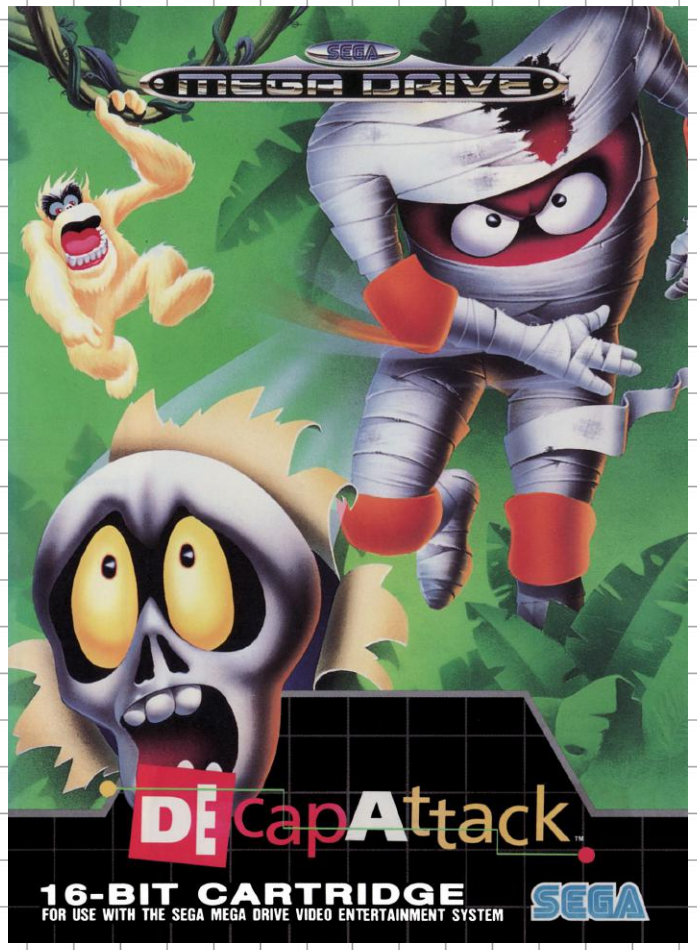
European Version

Japanese Version

One A big mix of design across all three covers this time, none are particually striking, the Japanese cover catching your eye the best with its use of colour and framed nicely, the US cover is very boring with its use of the sword, and the European one is just plain weird looking like something out of a Queen music video!

DECAPATTACK





SEGA GENESIS 16-BIT CARTRIDGE

American Version

SEGA MEGA DRIVE

European Version

MEGA DRIVE

Japanese Version

The Genesis and European covers are identical, featuring very bold cartoony characters that would catch your eye on the store shelf. The Japanese cover (known as Magical Hat no Buttobi Turbo! Daibouken) has anime drawings from the cartoon series that bring a very colouful and cheerful image, the opposite of the remake for the western market!

DJ Boy

SEGA GENESIS 16-BIT CARTRIDGE

American Version

SEGA MEGA DRIVE

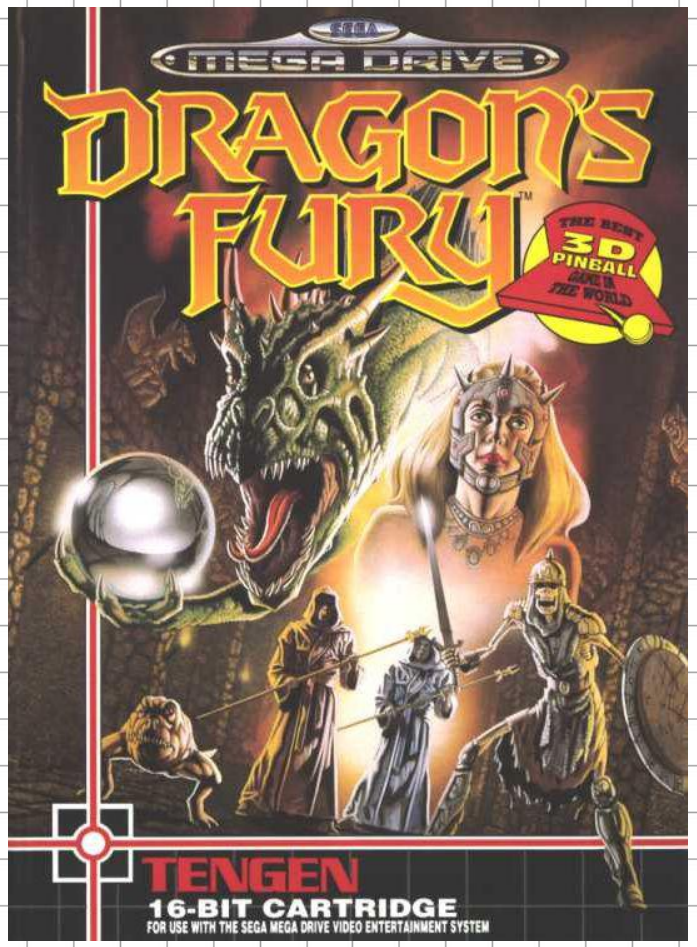
European Version

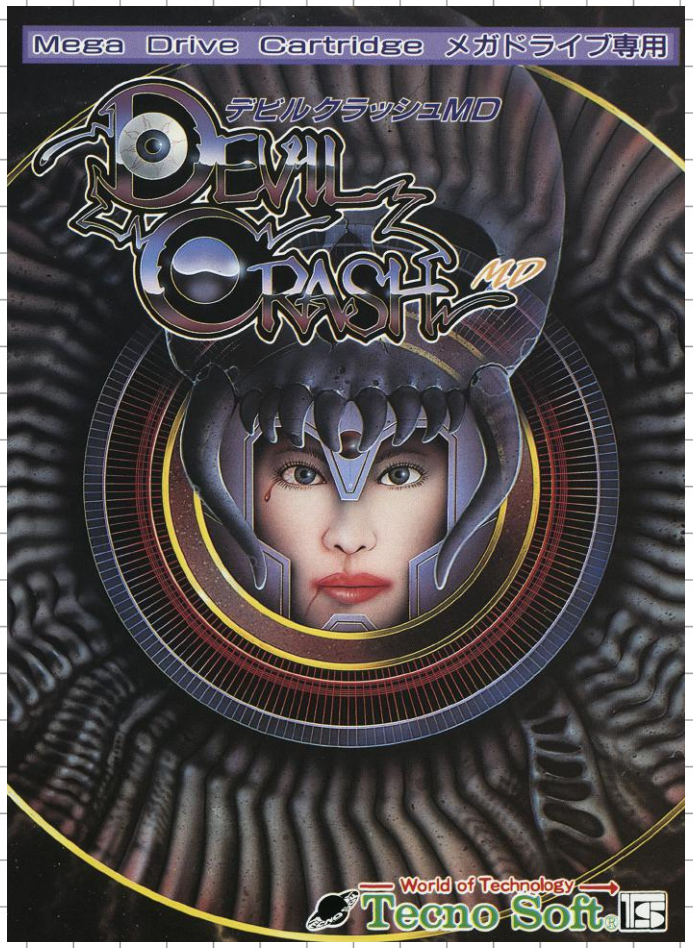
MEGA DRIVE

Japanese Version

The Genesis cover is very colourful at least, the drawings themselves aren't the best but have bold defined characters. The European and Japanese covers are the same, with more muted pastel colours used, but the Jap cover comes across better with its bold edges and title in the centre where there is nothing on the Euro version where the focal point is.

Devil Crash





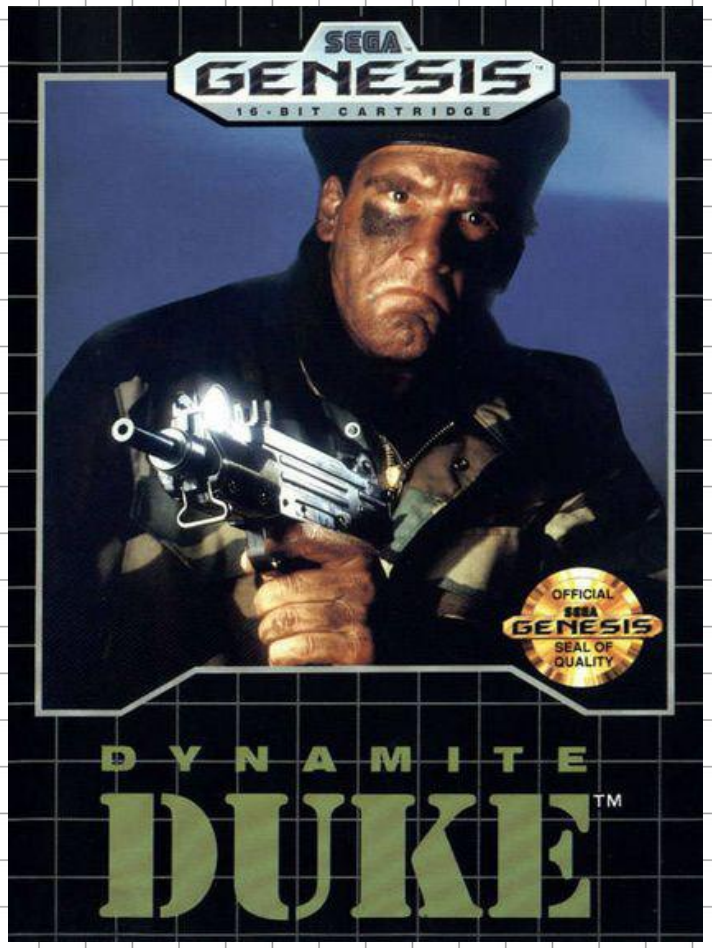
American Version

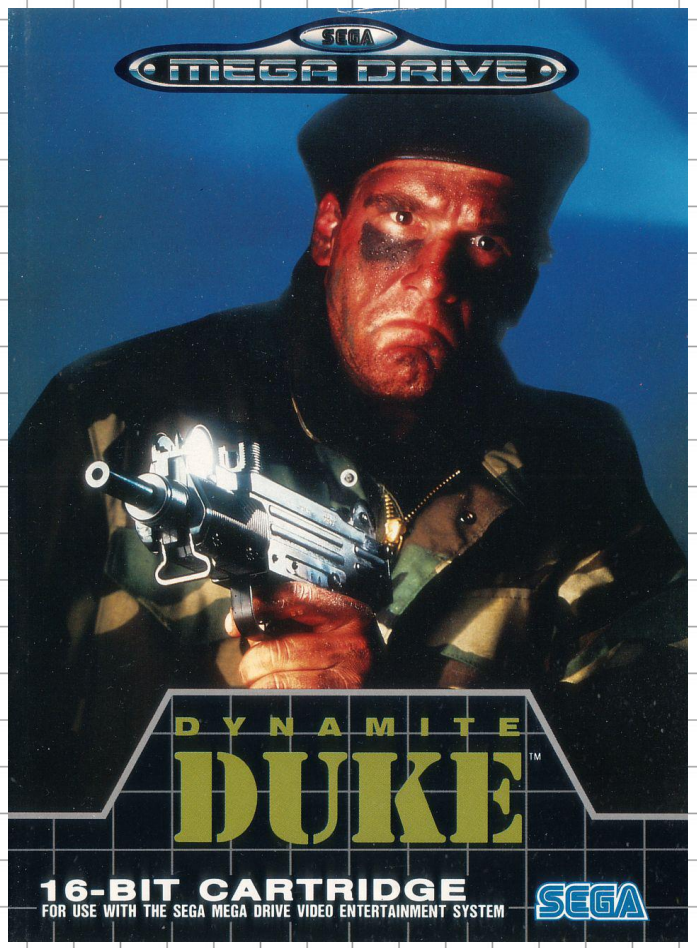
European Version

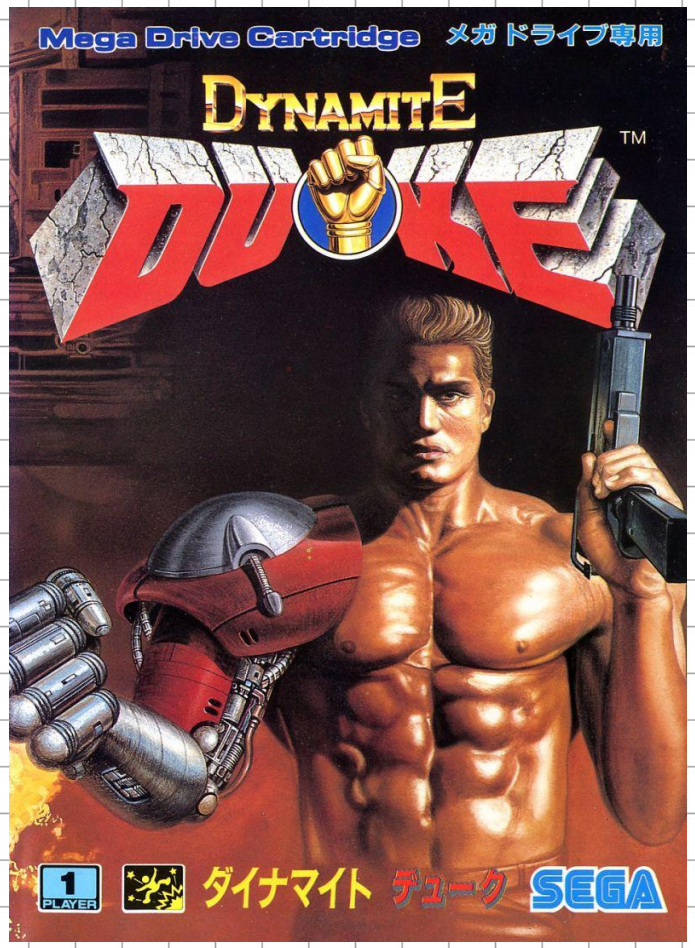
Japanese Version

The Genesis and European covers are the same, both displaying great fantasy drawings all lit and painted superbly. The Japanese cover is vastly different to the others, but at the same time its also a superb drawing, one of the more memorable Megadrive covers ever designed imo.

DYNAMITE DUKE







SEGA GENESIS 16-BIT CARTRIDGE

American Version

SEGA MEGA DRIVE

European Version

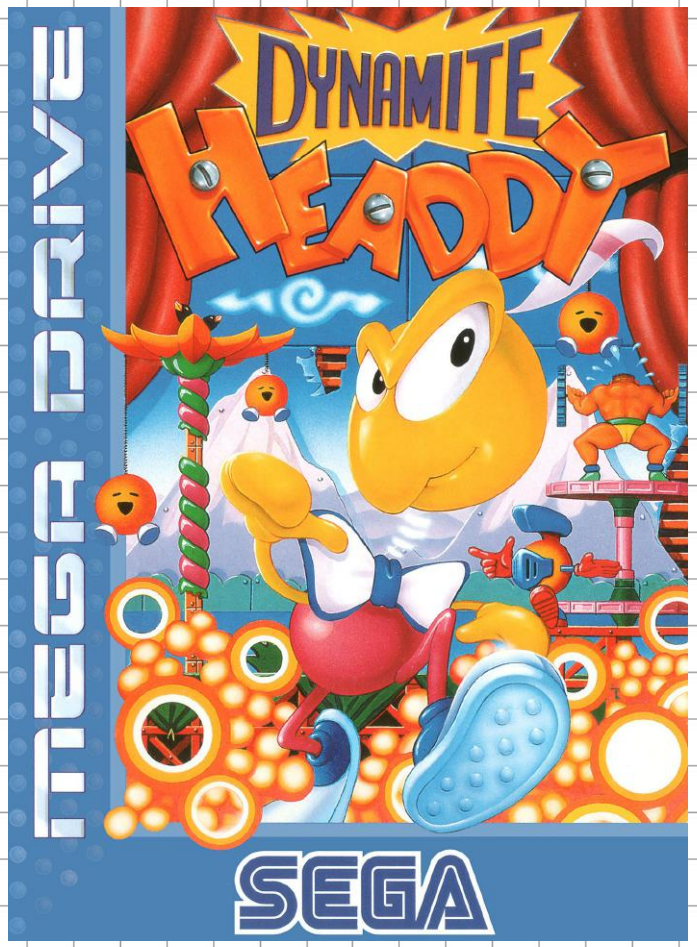
MEGA DRIVE

Japanese Version

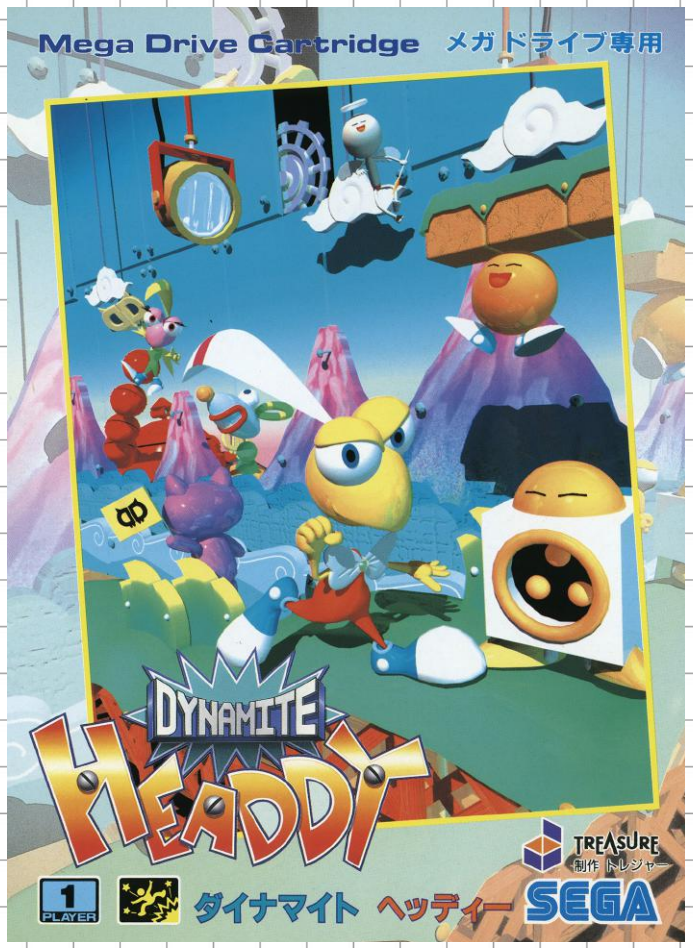
The Genesis and European covers are the same, with the use of some extra dressed in army apperal looking very dodgy and underpaid! The Japanese cover is a cross between Altered Beast and ESWAT, a Dolph Lungren look alike with robot arm, its well drawn but comes across a bit camp looking!

Dynamite Headdy

American Version



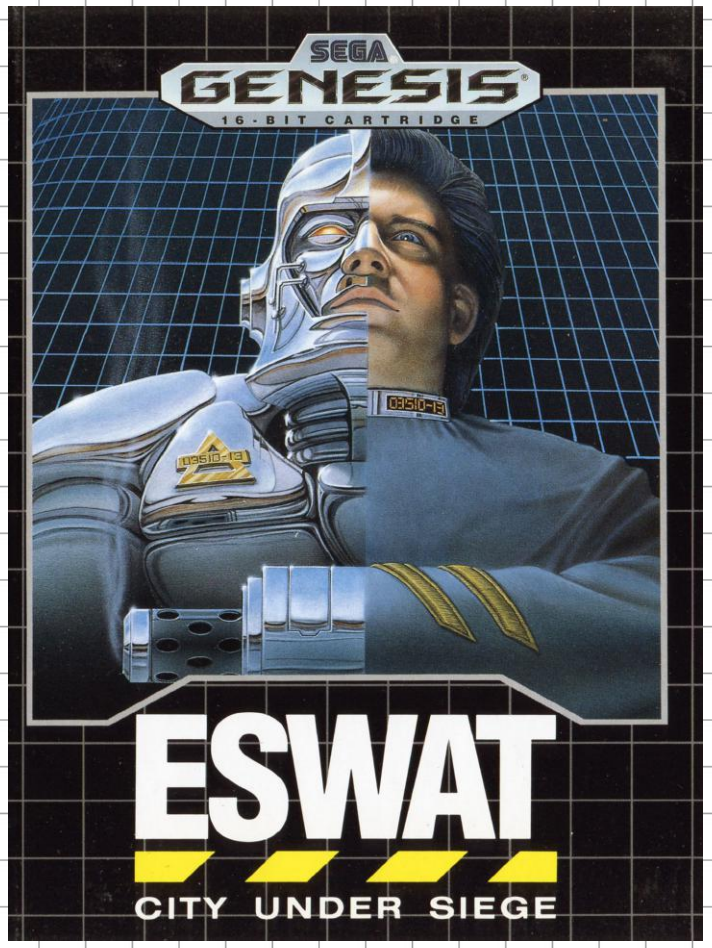
European Version

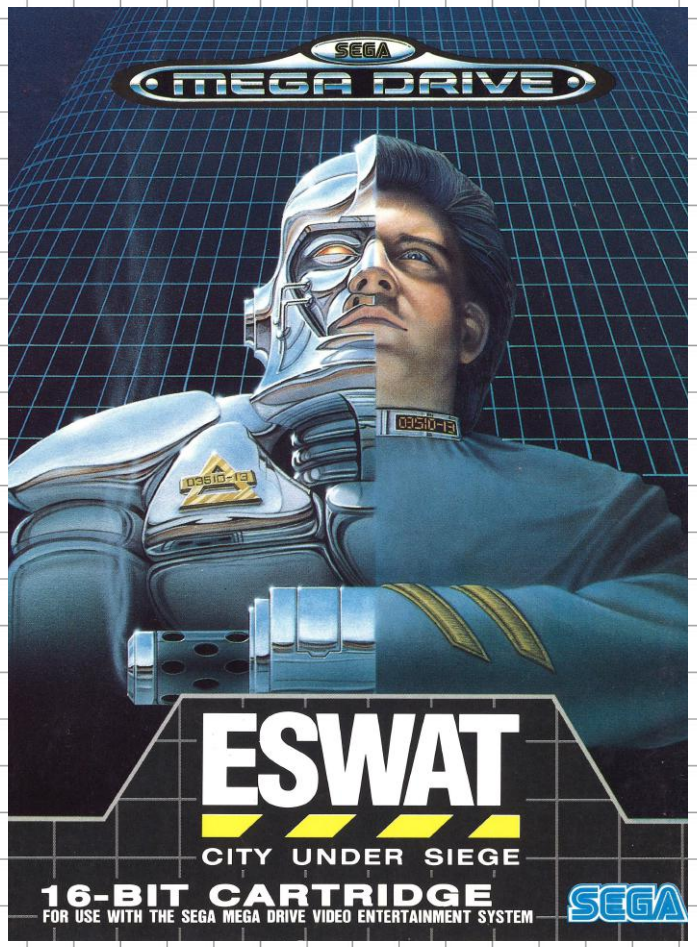


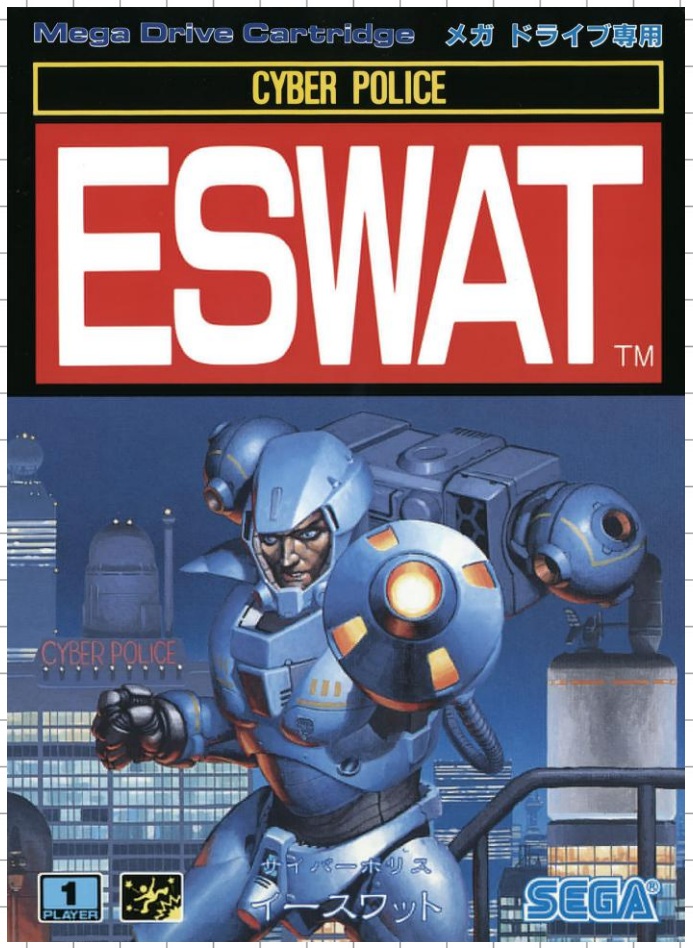
Japanese Version

The Genesis cover has a more angry looking Headdy than the others, whilst looking average at best. The European cover features a more laid back hero, the colours work well but the image is less effective for this game. The Japanese cover features a 3D rendering and actually looks the best of the three in a mid 90's all the rage style.

CYBER POLICE
ESWAT







SEGA GENESIS 16-BIT CARTRIDGE

American Version

SEGA MEGA DRIVE

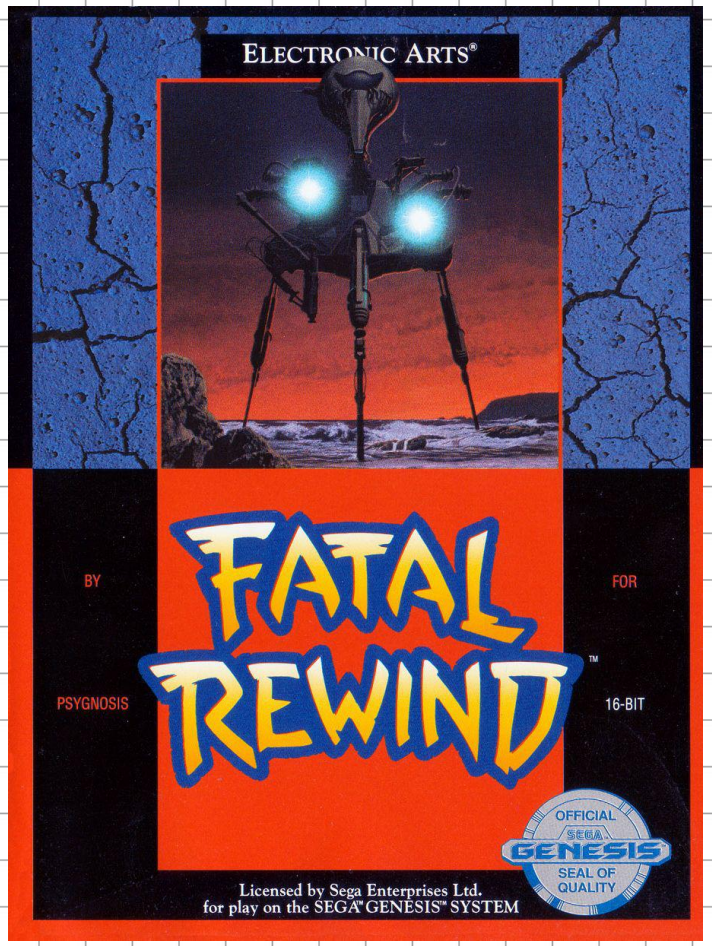
European Version

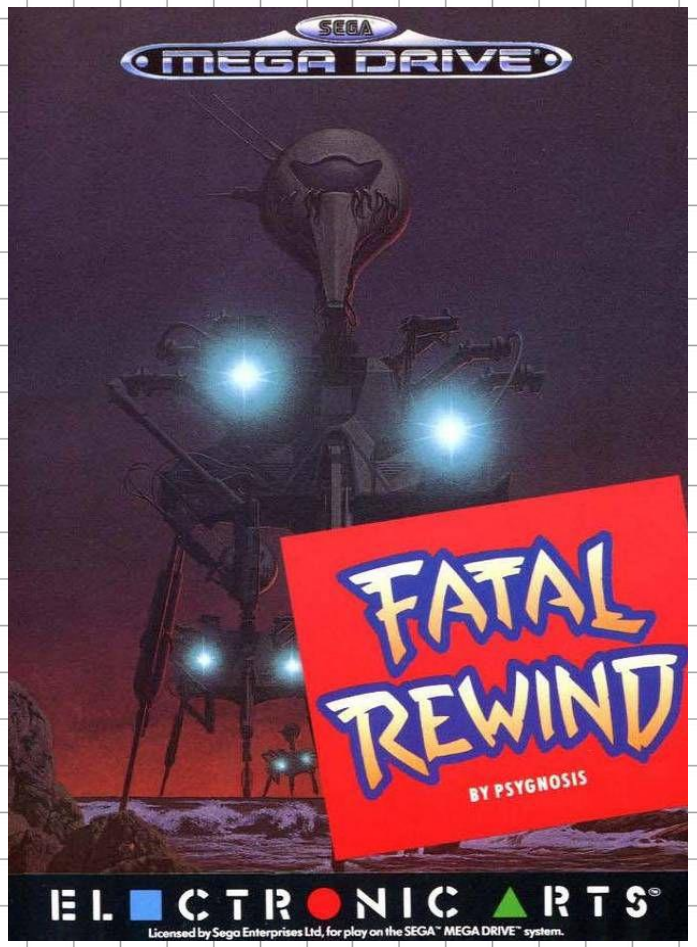
MEGA DRIVE

Japanese Version

Once again the western versions share the same image only the framing is different, the Japanese version although not brilliant still comes across as the better of the covers, having the main character pointing his weapon at you (no pun intended!) just comes across as an action title, where as the others could be anything!

THE KILLING GAME SHOW





American Version

European Version

Japanese Version

All three covers have the same robot feature but all displayed in different ways. The Genesis cover squares it all up with the title taking half the cover. The European cover uses the image as the whole background, though the title would have worked better without the red square covering part of it. The Japanese version uses the original Amiga name of the game and the title image works well, shame about the central sphere though.

AmigaJay - 2015